

Wednesday, July 1, 2020

FUTURE FORMS OF BEAUTY

Call for transdisciplinary group proposals

The Université PSL Research Chair on Beauty Studies, made possible by a sponsorship from L'Oréal, provides support for projects that focus on forward-looking approaches to the concept of beauty. In 2020, the Chair in Beauty Studies is launching its first call for transdisciplinary group proposals. This call for proposals is being addressed to the entire academic community, from the hard sciences to the arts and humanities and the social sciences, without any restrictions in terms of discipline or methodology.

One, two or three projects will be selected in 2020 and awarded financial support ranging from €5,000 to €30,000.

- Consistent with the scientific diversity to be found at PSL, the projects must be multidisciplinary and must follow an approach that elaborates on, calls into question, reinvigorates or shifts the concept of beauty. The multidisciplinary group project(s) will be designed to prompt international reflection and will be assessed on their ability to generate integrative and dynamic forms of research.

The chosen theme – Future Forms of Beauty – should encourage applicants to be unique and inventive in devising a concept of beauty that can dialectically explore the challenges we will confront in the future, in ways that connect aesthetic projections with ethical, technological, ecological or cultural concerns.

[For more information on the Chair, click here.](#)

Selection Criteria

To be eligible, projects must be led by an experienced researcher who is on the staff of a French research institution or institution of higher education and is based in France; the other members of the project may be doctoral or post-doctoral students or unaffiliated researchers in France or abroad.

The research team will consist of three to six researchers from a variety of disciplines.

The projects will be evaluated and selected by the steering committee, which may be expanded to include invited outside guests. The primary selection criteria will be as follows:

- **The project's relevance to the topic of "Future Forms of Beauty":** its ability to generate new paradigms for thinking about beauty.
- **The scientific excellence of the project:** the use of experienced laboratories and research teams, methodological rigor, innovation, etc.

- **The quality of the team of participating researchers:** multidisciplinary background, international outlook, etc.
- **The scope of the expected findings and the feasibility of the project within the allotted timeframe:** experimental protocols, prototypes, the invention of tools, deliverables, events, symposia, exhibitions, etc.

Practicalities and financial arrangements

- The project(s) will begin in January 2021. They will be funded for a period of 18 consecutive months up to a maximum of €30,000;
- The funding will cover the various types of expenses arising from the project's activities (investment in hardware, travel expenses, lodging and meals, event logistics, invitations for researchers outside France, etc.), with the exception of personnel costs and salaries.

Application package

The application package must be in digital format and include the following documents:

- A detailed description of the project (not to exceed five pages) that includes the issue addressed by the project and its methodology and objectives.
- Detailed, current CVs for the project leader and team members.
- Project-related bibliography.
- Projected budget with a detailed timeline.

For more information and to submit applications:

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 Scientific Coordinator, Research Chair on Beauty Studies
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Applications must be sent **by 11:59 pm on November 15, 2020, Paris time.**

The members of the scientific committee for the Chair on Beauty Studies may participate in one or more research projects. They may not, however, serve as the project leaders.

Incomplete application packages will not be considered.

Obligations of the recipient

An interim report must be submitted at the end of the first year. In addition, the teams agree to provide a final report that has the potential to be published in the form of a working paper, article or final work. By submitting an application, the project leaders agree that, if they are selected, they will share the findings of their work at one or more events held by the Chair and will produce a brief summary of those findings (in French and English) that is accessible to a wide audience.

With regard to communications:

- The Université PSL logo and that of the PSL-L'Oréal Chair on Beauty Studies must appear on all documents used for communications.
- The financial assistance from the PSL-L'Oréal Chair on Beauty Studies must be cited in all written and oral communication (programs, posters, proceedings, documents provided to participants, articles).

